

Artist Statement

After working for several seasons as an Interpretive or Backcountry Ranger for the National Parks in unusually stunning settings, it should not be a surprise. My work focuses on the ecology of a location. My main subjects come from wilderness areas - the land, the processes that formed it or it's inhabitants. Whenever present in these areas, I paint what I see. I try to capture the essence of the place rather than duplicate it in a photo realistic image. Sometimes the work tends toward the abstract. It is always possible, however, to recognize parts which allow the viewer to forge connections from their own personal experiences.

I enjoy experimenting with various media - acrylic paints, watercolor, encaustic, drawing media, ink, fabric, paper and whatever found materials that fascinate me. I love the way different media can fit together in a harmonic whole. Mixing it all up creates interest or fun: smaller patterns emerge into larger shapes, geometric forms are juxtaposed by more organic forms, paper is layered with fabric, bold paint color is used with softer drawing media. At completion, each piece is an approachable painting representing the infinite to the finite. While strong compositional forms and familiar subject matter initially engage the viewer, it is the patterns, the textures, the pairing of seemingly unlike elements, or the depth within a piece which inspires further and lasting reflection.